

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/621,689

Examiner

Dennis Myint

Applicant(s)

HORN, BRUCE L.

Art Unit

2162

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Supplementary Amendment filed on May 21, 2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-7, 9-17, 19 and 20.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).


\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                     |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____    | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                              |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance  |
|  | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____   |

  
**SHAHID ALAM**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. Claims 1-7, 9-17, and 19-20 are pending in this office action.
2. In the amendment filed on April 9, 2007, claims 1 and 11 were amended. Claims 8 and 18 were cancelled and incorporated into claim 1 and 11 respectively. Claims 21 and 22 were newly added. Claims 1, 11, and 21 are independent claims. In the supplemental amendment filed on May 21, 2007, claims 1 and 11 were amended and claims 21 and 22 were cancelled. As such, claims 1-7, 9-17, and 19-20 are pending.

### ***Drawings***

3. Drawings, filed on July 16, 2003 and drawings are accepted.

### ***Specification***

4. Specification, filed on July 16, 2003, is considered and accepted.

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

5. Claims 1-7, 9-17, and 19-20 are allowed. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter.

As per claim 1, the prior art of record, alone or in combination, does not teach or fairly suggest the combination steps as recited in the claim. Watkins et al., (U.S. Patent Number 6457017) in view of Lewak et al., (U.S. Patent Number 5544360) and further in

view of Stickler (U.S. Patent Application Publication Number 2003/0088593) does not teach the following limitation:

“wherein said central processing unit processes so as to provide, during user scrolling of an expandable outline in a single window where the contents of multiple branches and multiple levels of a hierarchy are visible at once, views of objects and their containment relationships or location paths within said hierarchy in said single window on said display, so the containment hierarchies of the objects being viewed are continuously made visible in a dynamically-updating sticky-path portion at the top of said window, and, as the scrolling continues past the beginning of new open branch of the hierarchy, thus entering the branch in descending hierarchical order, the container of that branch remains visible in said dynamically-updating sticky path portion of said window that automatically expands to show the branches of the full containment path to the first item currently visible in the expandable outline, and, when scrolling continues past the end of the open branch of the hierarchy to exit the branch in ascending hierarchical order, the container of that branch is deleted from said sticky path window portion, automatically shrinking the dynamically-updated sticky path portion of said window to show as visible in said sticky path portion of said window only the containment hierarchy path branches to the then-open branch of said hierarchy”.

As per claim 11, the prior art of record, alone or in combination, does not teach or fairly suggest the combination steps as recited in the claim. Watkins et al., in

view of Lewak et al., and further in view of Stickler does not teach the following limitation:

“wherein said central processor unit in said code in at least one step of generating and displaying, during user scrolling of an expandable outline in a single window where the contents of multiple branches and multiple levels of a hierarchy are visible at once, views of objects and their containment relationships or location paths within said hierarchy in said single window on said display, so the containment hierarchies of the objects being viewed are continuously made visible in a dynamically-updating sticky-path portion at the top of said window, and, as the scrolling continues past the beginning of new open branch of the hierarchy, thus entering the branch in descending hierarchical order, the container of that branch remains visible in said dynamically-updating sticky path portion of said window that automatically expands to show the branches of the full containment path to the first item currently visible in the expandable outline, and, when scrolling continues past the end of the open branch of the hierarchy to exit the branch in ascending hierarchical order, the container of that branch is deleted from said sticky path window portion, automatically shrinking the dynamically-updated sticky path portion of said window to show as visible in said sticky path portion of said window only the containment hierarchy path branches to the then-open branch of said hierarchy”.


The dependent claims, being definite, further limiting, and fully enabled by the section are also allowed.

**Contact Information**

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dennis Myint whose telephone number is (571) 272-5629. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM-5:30PM Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Breene can be reached on (571) 272-4107. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

  
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*05/21/2017*